

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-9, 13, and 14 have been cancelled. Claims 10-12 have been amended. New claims 15-20 have been added.

This amendment adds, changes and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 10-12 and 15-20 are now pending in this application.

Amendments to the Specification

The title of the invention stands rejected as not descriptive. A new title has been specified that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated over U.S. Patent No. 6,094,281 ("Nakai"). Claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 were cancelled making the rejection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakai and U.S. Patent No. 5,045,932 ("Sharman"). Claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakai and U.S. Patent No. 6,201,616 ("Sasanuma"). Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakai and U.S. Patent

No. 6,859,637 (“Kawai”). Claims 2-6, 8 and 9 were cancelled making the rejection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10-12 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were found to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Each of claims 10-12 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 7. Accordingly, allowance of claims 10-12 and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

New Claims 15-20

New claims 15-20 are independent claims added to further define the invention.

Support for claims 15-20 can be found at least on page 14 of the specification. Applicant submits that the prior art references, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of claims 15-20. For example, each of claims 15-20 recite a correction unit or a correcting method that performs correction by executing on the basis of the discrimination information from the image region discrimination unit or discrimination step. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 15-20 be allowed.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.


The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to

charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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